

## Crime and Society: SOCY 2044

Department of Sociology  
University of Colorado Boulder

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Professor: David Pyrooz, Ph.D.

Office: Ketchum 262

Phone: 303-492-3241

Office Hours: W 9-11:00am/by appointment

Email: [David.Pyrooz@colorado.edu](mailto:David.Pyrooz@colorado.edu)

Classroom: Ramaley (RAMY) C250

Lecture hours: M-W 1:00-1:50pm

Recitation hours: see below

TA name: see below

TA office hours: see below

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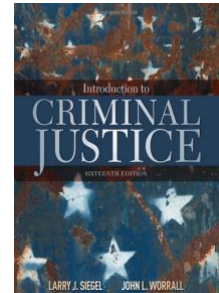
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### Text

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*Required:*

Siegel, Larry, and John Worrall. 2018. *Introduction to Criminal Justice* (16th edition), Cengage.<sup>1</sup>



### Course Description and Objectives

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This course explores issues related to crime, the criminal justice system, and crime-related public policy. It addresses what we know about crime and how we know it, how our society responds to crime, and how the institutions designed to address crime—police, courts, and corrections—function historically and contemporarily.

The course is divided into five components:

1. The nature of crime, law, and criminal justice
2. The police and law enforcement
3. Courts and adjudication
4. Corrections
5. Contemporary challenges in criminal justice

The learning objectives for this course include:

1. Define and describe the major components of the criminal justice system;
2. Identify and explain how crimes are defined, recorded, and explained;
3. Understand and critique criminal justice system processes and outcomes;
4. Apply course material to improve thinking, interpreting, and problem solving with respect to current events and issues in the criminal justice system

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<sup>1</sup> You are encouraged to obtain a copy of the 16<sup>th</sup> edition of this text, as lectures and assessments will be based on this edition. However, the 15<sup>th</sup> edition is similar in content and structure—albeit not identical—to the 16<sup>th</sup> edition, and there may be less expensive purchasing options available. As opposed to purchasing the bound copy of the book, please consider obtaining a used, loose-leaf, or digital copy.

## Grading

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Lecture attendance	.	.	.	.	.	25
Recitation participation	.	.	.	.	.	25
Quizzes	.	.	.	.	.	125
Current events	.	.	.	.	.	125
Final exam	.	.	.	.	.	200

Grading scale:	A:	100-90%	450 – 500 points
(0-2 = -)	B:	89-80%	400 – 449
(8-9 = +)	C:	79-70%	350 – 399
	D:	69-60%	300 – 349
	F:	<60%	

## Recitations and Teaching Assistants

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Teaching assistant (TA)-led recitations are required for this course. The recitation sections, as well as associated TAs, are listed below. Please consult with your TA for a recitation syllabus.

### TA: Danni Lopez-Rogina

- Section 101: F 8-8:50 (HLMS 245)
- Section 103: F 10-10:50 (CLRE 104)
- Section 104: F 11-11:50 (CLRE 209)

[danni.lopezrogina@colorado.edu](mailto:danni.lopezrogina@colorado.edu)

### TA: Alaina Iacobucci

- Section 102: F 2-2:50 (DUAN G2B60)
- Section 106: F 8-8:50 (ENVD 122)
- Section 107: F 3-3:50 (KTCH 1B64)

[Alaina.Iacobucci@colorado.edu](mailto:Alaina.Iacobucci@colorado.edu)

## Attendance, Lectures, Class Discussion, and Readings

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This class is scheduled to meet 30 times for lecture this semester. Attendance is required, and taken during the class period using Clickers <https://www.cubookstore.com/p-68733-i-clicker-plus.aspx>. You may miss four class lectures—no questions asked—without penalty; each absence thereafter will correspond with a 2-point reduction. This covers excused and unexcused absences. Please contact the professor for extended periods of absences (e.g., health). Attendance will be considered at the conclusion of the semester when rounding final grades, as no extra credit is offered in this course. Correspond with your TA about recitation absence policy.

Class periods—lecture and recitation—will consist of lectures, discussion, group breakout sessions, and Clicker-administrated surveys. It is expected that you will ask and respond to questions during lectures, engage in discussions, participate in breakout sessions, and respond to Clicker-based questions. This is critical to achieving the learning objectives of the course.

Please be mindful that some of topics covered in this class may elicit rather strong and diverse opinions, such as race, immigration, victimization, and punishment. It is expected that these topics will be discussed openly, professionally, and without aggression or malice. If you feel you are unable to meet this expectation, please confer with your professor about alternative ways to have your points made. Students who feel that these topics would cause discomfort to the point that it would result in continued non-participation in class are advised to drop the course.

Powerpoints will not be made available to students. Electronic devices—laptops, tablets, phones—may be used in the class strictly for the purposes of taking notes or facilitating class discussion. Students are subject to a “one-strike” policy for non-class-related use of electronic devices. Audio or video recording of lectures is prohibited. Students are encouraged to develop working groups to share notes and study for assessments. Readings are expected to have been completed prior to the class lecture and discussion.

## Current Events/Issues Assignments

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*Objective:* To apply knowledge acquired from the course material and lecture to critically analyze newsworthy current events and issues in the criminal justice system.

*Details:* You are to identify a newsworthy current event or issue in the criminal justice system that is consistent with the component of the class covered in lecture. The TAs will identify 3-4 broad topical areas to help guide students. For example, the second component of the class is “The Police and Law Enforcement.” The current event for that component should entail identifying article(s) published in popular press—it can be collection of short reads (e.g., <1,000 words) or a single long read (e.g., >1,000 words)—addressing events or issues in policing, such as officer-involved shootings, false confessions, body-worn cameras, prosecuting police officers, etc. In drafting your essay, you are to do the following:

1. Summarize the news article(s). Describe the facts of the story based on the news article(s) relevant to the chosen class topic.
2. Identify the issues at hand. Link the news article(s) to issues that have been identified in the course, such as content covered in lecture, guest visitors, or the textbook—be specific (e.g., cite the textbook page number);
3. Establish the implications of the news article(s). What does the news article(s) mean for criminal justice policy and practice? This is a critical analysis of the issues, which should be based on logic and evidence.

There are many places to search for information.<sup>2</sup> It is important to recognize that some outlets may have stronger ideological emphases than others, which might color the facts and the issues (parts 1 and 2 of the assignment). Please check your outlets using [www.mediabiasfactcheck.com](http://www.mediabiasfactcheck.com). The reliance on an outlet with left/right bias or medium/low factual reporting must include at least one additional outlet references the events in question. You are encouraged to engage with multiple news outlets that have covered the events and issues you select. Twitter is a great resource for finding relevant articles by following news organization and leading figures.

*Requirements:* There will be four essays that coincide with the first four components of the class. Each of these essays should satisfy the following criteria:

- A maximum of 1 page of single-spaced text (text beyond 1 page will not be graded)
- 1” margins all around, Times New Roman 12 point font
- Include name and assignment number in the top header
- Provide a title summarizing your topic on single line at the top of the paper, with the main text followed immediately on the third line
- A URL shortened hyperlink (<https://goo.gl>) should be included on the last line of the paper
- Submit via D2L the following Sunday upon concluding the topic area in lecture:
  - Quiz 1: February 25
  - Quiz 2: March 25
  - Quiz 3: April 22
  - Quiz 4: May 6 (only 4 days after conclusion of Chapter 14 lecture)

A grading rubric will be provided on D2L, along with an exemplary essay.

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<sup>2</sup> Examples include traditional local and national newspapers (e.g., Denver Post, New York Times, USA Today, Washington Post), print and online magazines (e.g., Westword, The Atlantic, Quillette), and news aggregators (e.g., Huffington Post, Yahoo News, Drudge Report, Apple News).

Each essay is worth a max of 31.25 points. This assignment is worth 25% of your final grade.

## **Quizzes and Final Exam**

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*Objective:* The quizzes and final exam will evaluate your knowledge and understanding of the materials covered in the readings, lectures, and classroom discussions.

*Details (Quizzes):* There will be four quizzes in the class. Each quiz will cover a section of the class. Quizzes will be administered online via Canvas. Quiz questions will consist of multiple choice, true/false, and open/closed-ended questions. Questions and response categories will be randomly assigned to students. Quizzes will be timed to allot approximately 1.5 minutes across aggregated questions (e.g., 20 questions = 30 minutes). All quizzes are open book and open note. However, students are not allowed to communicate with anyone while taking the quiz. Any reports of violating these rules will result in closed book, closed note, in-class quizzes. Quizzes must be completed the Sunday upon concluding the topic area in the lecture (similar to writing assignments) using the following dates for the window of completion:

1. The nature of crime, law, and criminal justice (Chapters 1 to 4)
  - a. Quiz opens: February 15 (12:00am)
  - b. Quiz closes: February 17 (11:59pm)
2. The police and law enforcement (Chapters 5 to 8)
  - a. Quiz opens: March 15 (12:00am)
  - b. Quiz closes: March 17 (11:59pm)
3. Courts and adjudication (Chapters 9 to 11)
  - a. Quiz opens: April 5 (12:00am)
  - b. Quiz closes: April 7 (11:59pm)
4. Corrections (Chapters 12 to 14)
  - a. Quiz opens: May 3 (12:00am)
  - b. Quiz closes: May 5 (11:59pm)

Each quiz is worth a max of 31.25 points. This assignment is worth 25% of your final grade.

*Details (Final Exam):* There will be a single final exam in the class. It will be administered in-person via paper-and-pencil on the scheduled final exam day. Final exam questions will consist of multiple choice, true-false, and open/closed-ended questions. Questions and response categories will be randomly assigned to students. The final exam is closed book, closed note, and the questions are cumulative (i.e., covers the entire semester). The final recitation session will be devoted to review materials covered in the course and answer questions about the final exam, including the provision of a general study guide.

The final exam is worth 200 points, or 40% of your final grade.

## Course Schedule\*

		Topic	Reading	Assn. Due	
Week 1: Jan 14, 16	Part 1: Crime, Law, & Justice	Syllabus	Ch. 1		
Week 2: Jan 21, 23		1. Crime and criminal justice			
		No class: MLK			
Week 3: Jan 28, 30		2. The nature and extent of crime	Ch. 2	Clickers	
Week 4: Feb 4, 6		3. Understanding crime and victimization	Ch. 3		
Week 5: Feb 11, 13	Part 2: Police	4. Criminal law: Substance and procedure	Ch. 4	1. Quiz 1. Essay	
Week 6: Feb 18, 20		5. Public policing and private security	Ch. 5		
Week 7: Feb 25, 27		6. The police: Organization, role, and function	Ch. 6		
Week 8: Mar 4, 6		7. Issues in policing	Ch. 7		
Week 9: Mar 11, 13		8. Police and the rule of law	Ch. 8	2. Quiz 2. Essay	
Week 10: Mar 18, 20	Part 3: Courts	9. Court structure and personnel	Ch. 9		
Week 11: Mar 25, 27		No class: Spring Break		Ch. 10	
Week 12: Apr 1, 3		10. Pretrial and trial procedures	Ch. 11	3. Quiz 3. Essay	
Week 13: Apr 8, 10		11. Punishment and sentencing	Ch. 12		
Week 14: Apr 15, 17	Part 4: Corrections	12. Community sentences			
Week 15: Apr 22, 24		13. Corrections: History, institutions, pop.	Ch. 13		
Week 16: Apr 29, May 1		14. Prison life: Living in and leaving prison	Ch. 14	4. Quiz 4. Essay	
Week 17: May 6		Final exam: 1:30-4:00pm			

**Date = no class**

**Ch. = Chapter in Siegel and Worrall—Introduction to Criminal Justice**

**Quiz = quarterly quiz covering component of the class**

**Essay = quarterly essay covering component of the class**

\*This syllabus and corresponding class schedule are subject to change

## Contact

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Course content-related questions should be emailed to your recitation-associated TA (ccing [David.Pyrooz@colorado.edu](mailto:David.Pyrooz@colorado.edu)). The subject line should include the course name (SOCY 2044). Emails that lack a greeting, main text, and sign off may not be acknowledged. Emails that contain questions that could be answered by reading the syllabus will be responded to with "Please consult the syllabus."

## Discrimination

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The University of Colorado Boulder (CU-Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. CU-Boulder will not tolerate acts of discrimination or harassment based upon Protected Classes or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. For purposes of this CU-Boulder policy, "Protected Classes" refers to race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSC) at 303-492-5550. Information about the OIEC, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be found at the [OIEC website](#). The [full policy on discrimination and harassment](#) contains additional information.

## Late Policy

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Arrive prior to 1:00pm. Late arrivals, as well as early departures, may be considered absent for that class period. Late essays and quizzes will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

## Classroom Code of Conduct

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Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. For more information, see the [policies on classroom behavior](#) and [the student code](#).

## Electronic Device Policy

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Non-disruptive occasional use of cell phones is permitted. Device sound alerts must be turned off during class. Tablets and laptops may be used strictly for class purposes at your my discretion. All interpersonal communication is prohibited. Audio and video recordings are not permitted. Any deviation from the aforementioned policy must be discussed with me beforehand.

## Academic Integrity Policy and Student Honor Code

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All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to [the academic integrity policy](#) of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu); 303-735-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Additional information regarding the [Honor Code policy can be found online](#) and at the [Honor Code Office](#).

## Services for Students with Disabilities

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If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to your professor a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner (for exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam) so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by e-mail at [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu). If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see [Temporary Injuries guidelines](#) under the Quick Links at the [Disability Services website](#) and discuss your needs with your professor.

## Writing Center

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If you need help with writing, visit the CU-Boulder Writing Center. Writing tutors will work with you one-on-one at any stage of the writing process (brainstorming, generating a draft, organizing a draft, or revising a draft) for any written assignment. Consult their website for resources <http://www.colorado.edu/pwr/writingcenter.html>

## Religious Accommodations

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Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. See [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.

## Withdrawals

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Students wishing to withdraw are cautioned to follow formal procedures outlined by the University <http://www.colorado.edu/registrar/registration-grades/adddrop-courses>